

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

For a fuller understanding of the nature and advantages of the present invention, as well as the preferred mode of use, reference should be made to the following detailed description read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings. In the following drawings, like reference
5 numerals designate like or similar parts throughout the drawings.

FIG. 1 is a top view of the suspension assembly with side views of the flanges.

FIG. 2 is an exploded top view of the suspension assembly, which includes the flexure assembly, the stainless steel load beam, and the mount plate.

FIG. 3 is an exploded view of the flexure assembly of the suspension as shown in FIG. 1,
10 including a stainless steel backing layer, a polyimide insulation layer, and a copper trace / conductor lead layer.

FIG. 4 is an enlarged top view of the suspension assembly tip region with all of its component layers: the stainless steel load beam and the three flexure layers (stainless steel trace, polyimide insulation, copper trace / conductor lead).

FIGS. 5A - 5^F are sectional views along different sections of the suspension assembly as
15 shown in FIG. 4.

FIG. 6 is an enlarged side view of the suspension assembly tip region as shown in FIG. 1.

FIGS. 7A-C are enlarged views of the exploded parts of the flexure assembly tip region as shown in FIG. 3.

FIG. 8 is a perspective view illustrating loading and unloading of the slider/suspension
20 assembly with respect to the disk.

FIG. 9 is a perspective view of the load/unload ramp dynamics.

FIG. 10 is a simplified drawing of a magnetic recording disk drive system.